

Volume 1, Issue 1
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NEW BEGINNINGS

NO DECISIONS UNTIL THE BUDGET IS SIGNED

The Governor's budget proposal to close Agnews in July 2005 is news that affects us all in many different ways. The fact is, it is just a proposal at this point. One that must be scrutinized by both the Assembly and Senate during the next few months. But while they are making their decisions, this is our opportunity to start a planning process of creating an Agnews that continues to be state-of-the art for the future.

When and if the proposal is passed, we will be ahead of the game. And if it does not pass, we will still be ahead of the game. New and innovative ideas may be created to make Agnews a thriving hub for the community; a satellite of services that will enhance the lives of our clients and those who live in our surrounding neighborhoods.

Today, our commitment is to the people who live at Agnews.

To give them the service of excellence that they deserve and have come to expect from us. When the time comes, there will be ample opportunity to develop a plan of action for each of us. We are in this together, and it will take all of our efforts to continue to keep Agnews a center of excellence; a place for our 440 clients to live and make dreams for their future and our 1300 employees to come to work each day.

Headquarters, as well as the Leadership Council at Agnews, will develop plans to prepare us for the changes in our own lives, if it should come to that, and those of our clients. However, it will take the effort by each of us, to take the appropriate actions at the appropriate time. You can begin today, by being informed by facts and not by rumors. Join one of the Bay Area Project committees and sub-committees that are currently being developed. Reach

out to staff who are having doubts and difficulties dealing with the unknown. Continue to be the professionals that you are, by providing our clients a stable and consistent home to live, work and play....they are still counting on us for *"Enriching Lives and Fostering Independence."*

Read about the committees in another section of this newsletter. Contact one of the leaders and find out when and where the meetings are scheduled. As for rumor control, tell us when you hear a rumor. Send them by e-mail to Ruth Richey or write to Box 156 in the mailroom on the attached form at the end of this newsletter. We will research the rumor and let you know if it is indeed fact or fiction.

Building 54 Passes All Fire/Life Safety Regulations

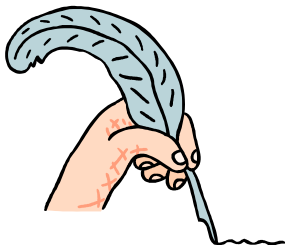
Recently Program 1 and related ancillary services participated in a NF Licensing Survey. The results of that survey acknowledged what we have all known, that we provide excellent services to clients who need skilled nursing services. The Licensing Team was very complementary to our staff and the care that

they are giving to each individual in the program. It has been rumored by staff that the Rapaport Building was not safe for our individuals. It is true that some upgrades have been put on hold while we determine the feasibility of making those upgrades based on the Governors proposal. On the other hand, our indi-

viduals are in a safe and healthy environment that meets the stringent regulations of Licensing. Congratulations to all who worked so hard to insure the success of this survey.



"Agnews is a diamond in the middle of Silicon Valley"



Rumor Control

Recently a rumor circulated through Agnews that Sonoma Developmental Center was building new residential space for clients from Agnews. As with most rumors, there is some factual information that has been embellished to make it more interesting. In this

case, SDC has some of the day-training programs located on residences. We found at ADC that training sites on residences are less than desirable. Sonoma has followed suit and is considering the relocation of these programs to enhance client training op-

portunities.

If you have a rumor that you would like us to research, please e-mail Ruth Richey or send in writing on the form below and mail to Box #156 in the mailroom.

Bay Area Project: Committee Reports

**AGNEWS STAFF
SUPPORT TEAM:**
Rozsa Romvari

Charge: Identify supports and resources needed by Agnews employees to develop their personal plans to maximize opportunities to utilize their expertise in future employment opportunities and to assure the provision of staff support systems during the transition period.

**QUALITY OF
SERVICES TEAM:**
Patricia Flannery

Charge: Assure that Agnews continues to provide services consistent with its residents needs.

**BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT
TEAM:**
Karen Clark

Charge: Identify operational issues related to the Governor's proposal in areas such as facility operations, construction projects, fiscal management, and space utilization.

**COMMUNICATIONS
TEAM:**
John Folck

Charge: Design and implement strategies to assure consumers, families, staff, legislators and other stakeholders are kept informed, and have opportunities to provide input.

**FUTURES PLANNING
TEAM:**
Angela Vrbanc-Libby

Charge: Monitor the person-centered planning process that will result in the identification of a preferred future for each Agnews resident.

**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
TEAM:**

Charge: Coordinate the development of services and supports that will be responsive to the needs of Agnews residents transitioning to the community services.

In the future, we will keep you apprised of any pertinent new legislative information.

Your comments: please submit to mailroom Box #156



"Enriching Lives, Fostering Independence"

Name _____ I wish to remain anonymous _____ Date _____